

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

NICOLLE BESUDEN,

Plaintiff,

vs.

The City of New York, New York Police Department,  
Mayor Bill de Blasio, NYPD Commissioner Dermot  
Shea, NYPD Chief of Department Terence Monahan,  
Lieutenant Maria Hernandez, Captain O'Hare, NYPD  
Deputy Inspector Elias J. Nikkas, Captain Julio  
Delgado, Police Officer Yu Jian Tax ID# 956343,  
Police Officer John Doe Tax #961840, Police Officer  
Patrick Connolly Tax #930038, Police Officer Cardenas  
Tax ID #959532, Police Officer Edward Casaceli and  
NYPD Police Officers John Does #1-10,

Defendants.

Civil Case No. 21-cv-08452  
Jury Demand

**COMPLAINT  
JURY DEMAND**

Plaintiff, NICOLLE BESUDEN, ("BESUDEN" and "Plaintiff") by and through her attorneys, The Aboushi Law Firm, PLLC, complaining of the Defendants, respectfully alleges as follows:

**PRELIMINARY STATEMENT**

1. Throughout 2020, Plaintiff attended several protests in New York City. Each time Plaintiff attended a protest, she was singled out by police officers by name, harassed, intimidated, assaulted and falsely arrested. Plaintiff was also surveilled and targeted by the NYPD during times when she was not participating in protest. Plaintiff now brings this action for violations of her rights under the federal and state constitutions and state common law

**JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

2. This Court has federal question jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1343(a)(3).
3. This Court has supplemental jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367.

4. Venue is proper in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(1) and (b)(2) as at least one of the Defendants resides in this district and a substantial part of the events and/or omissions were committed in this district.
5. Plaintiffs assert the following claims pursuant to the United States Constitution, New York Constitution, Section 42 U.S.C. § 1983, New York State law, as well as common law.
6. Plaintiff has complied with all requirements for asserting her claims, including filing a notice of claim, thirty days having elapsed since presentation of the claim, and compliance with GML Section 50 and the relevant subsections.

### **THE PARTIES**

7. The Plaintiff Nicolle Besuden is a female and a resident of the City of New York.
8. Defendant City of New York was and is a municipal corporation duly organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of New York.
9. Defendant City of New York maintains the New York City Police Department (“NYPD”), a duly authorized public authority and/or police department, authorized to perform all functions of a police department as per the applicable sections of the New York State Criminal Procedure Law, acting under the direction and supervision of the aforementioned municipal corporation, City of New York.
10. Defendant New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio was at all times relevant to this Complaint, and still is, the Mayor of New York City. As Mayor, Defendant DeBlasio, at all relevant times, was and is an elected official and the chief executive officer of the city pursuant to NYC charter section 3 and had final authority to appoint and or remove the NYPD Police Commissioner.

11. Defendant NYPD Commissioner Dermot Shea was at all times relevant to this Complaint, and still is, the Police Commissioner of the NYPD. As Police Commissioner, Defendant Shea, personally and/or through his authorized delegates, at all relevant times had final authority to promulgate and implement administrative and managerial policies and procedures, including policies and procedures as to personnel hiring, training, supervision, and discipline with respect to NYPD officers' performance of their duties, and constituted a City policymaker for whom the City is liable. He is sued individually and in his official capacity.
12. Defendant NYPD Chief of Department Terence Monahan was at all times relevant to this Complaint the Chief of Department of the NYPD who has policymaking authority over the Department. At all relevant times, as Chief of Department, Defendant Monahan, had primary responsibility for NYPD operations—that is, for the police response on the street. Within the paramilitary structure of the NYPD, all NYPD uniformed members of the service were obligated to obey any lawful order given by him. He is sued individually and in his official capacity.
13. Defendant NYPD Lieutenant Maria Hernandez is a resident of New York, an agent for the NYPD and City of New York, and at all times was acting within her official capacity as a Lieutenant, in uniform, while displaying a gun and a badge. Defendant Lt. Hernandez took action as a supervisor and NYPD uniformed members of the service were obligated to obey any lawful order given by her. She is sued individually and in her official capacity.

14. Defendant NYPD Deputy Inspector Elias Nikkas is a resident of New York, an agent for the NYPD and City of New York, and at all times was acting within his official capacity as Deputy Inspector in uniform, while displaying a gun and a badge. Defendant Deputy Inspector Nikkas took action as a supervisor and NYPD uniformed members of the service were obligated to obey any lawful order given by him. He is sued individually and in his official capacity.
15. Defendant NYPD Captain O'Hare is a resident of New York, an agent for the NYPD and City of New York, and at all times was acting within his official capacity as a Captain, in uniform, while displaying a gun and a badge. Defendant Captain O'Hare took action as a supervisor and NYPD uniformed members of the service were obligated to obey any lawful order given by him. He is sued individually and in his official capacity.
16. Defendant NYPD Captain Julio Delgado is a resident of New York, an agent for the NYPD and City of New York, and at all times was acting within his official capacity as a Captain, in uniform, while displaying a gun and a badge. Defendant Captain Delgado took action as a supervisor and NYPD uniformed members of the service were obligated to obey any lawful order given by him. He is sued individually and in his official capacity.
17. Defendant NYPD Captain- John Doe Tax ID 961840 is a resident of New York, an agent for the NYPD and City of New York, and at all times was acting within his official capacity as a Captain, in uniform, while displaying a gun and a badge. Defendant John Doe Tax ID 961840 took action as a supervisor and NYPD uniformed members of the service were obligated to obey any lawful order given by him. He is sued individually and in his official capacity.

18. Defendant NYPD Police Officer Cardenas Tax ID 959532 is a resident of New York, an agent for the NYPD and City of New York, and at all times was acting within his official capacity as a police officer, including but not limited to, taking action as a police officer, in uniform, while displaying a gun and a badge. He is sued individually and in his official capacity.
19. Defendant NYPD Police Officer Yu Jian Tax ID 956343 is a resident of New York, an agent for the NYPD and City of New York, and at all times was acting within his official capacity as a police officer, including but not limited to, taking action as a police officer, in uniform, while displaying a gun and a badge. He is sued individually and in his official capacity.
20. Defendant NYPD Police Officer Patrick Connolly Tax ID 930038 is a resident of New York, an agent for the NYPD and City of New York, and at all times was acting within his official capacity as a police officer, including but not limited to, taking action as a police officer, in uniform, while displaying a gun and a badge. He is sued individually and in his official capacity.
21. Defendant NYPD Police Officer Edward Casaceli is a resident of New York, an agent for the NYPD and City of New York, and at all times was acting within his official capacity as a police officer, including but not limited to, taking action as a police officer, in uniform, while displaying a gun and a badge. He is sued individually and in his official capacity.
22. That at all times hereinafter mentioned, the Defendant New York City Police Officers “John Does 1-10” (collectively, “Defendant ‘John Doe’ Police Officers” or “Defendant Officers”), were duly sworn Police Officers of said department and were acting under the supervision of said department and according to their official duties. They are sued individually and in their official capacities.

23. That at all times relevant to this action, the Defendant New York City Police Officers “John Does 1-10”, either personally or through their employees, were acting under color of state law and/or in compliance with the official rules, regulations, laws, statutes, customs, usages and/or practices of the State or City of New York.

### **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

#### **1. July 24, 2020.**

24. On July 24th, 2020 Plaintiff attended a march for Black Queer and Trans Lives that ended at Foley Square in New York, New York.
25. While protestors were gathered, an NYPD cruiser rushed through a group of protestors from behind while they were dispersing in the street, causing protestors to panic and flee.
26. Numerous Police officers began shoving protestors and running at protestors while also hitting protestors, including Plaintiff, with batons. Plaintiff was hit multiple times by various officers swinging indiscriminately at the crowd.
27. While Plaintiff tried to assist a woman who had fallen down and was caught under a bicycle, an officer ran over to Plaintiff from the far side of the street and used an over-head swing of his baton on Plaintiff’s outstretched right arm.
28. As Plaintiff tried to run away while holding her elbow, the same police officer struck Plaintiff again over her left shoulder. As a result of the assault, Plaintiff suffered a fractured elbow.

#### **2. July 28, 2020**

29. On July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020, Plaintiff was at another protest in response to NYPD clearing out the Occupy City Hall encampment. Strategic Response Group (“SRG”) officers on bikes forced protestors into Madison Square Park. Plaintiff and other protestors were given orders to disperse and get on the sidewalk. Plaintiff complied and got onto the sidewalk.

30. Defendant Nikkas pushed Plaintiff into the street and directed another officer to arrest Plaintiff. Plaintiff was arrested and all charges relating to this arrest were dismissed.

**3. July 30, 2020**

31. On July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020, Plaintiff was walking through Foley Square on her way to meet a friend and Defendant Nikkas came up to Plaintiff and asked her how was the beach. Defendant Nikkas' rhetorical question was in reference to a picture Plaintiff posted on her personal Instagram account earlier in the day of her and her friends at the beach.

32. Defendant Nikkas wanted to ensure Plaintiff knew that she was under surveillance by the NYPD and intended to cause fear, intimidation and emotional distress to Plaintiff. Plaintiff did in fact suffer fear, intimidation and emotional threat as a result of Defendant Nikkas' actions.

**4. August 11, 2020**

33. While Plaintiff was hanging out at Washington Square Park, Defendant Captain O'Hare approached Plaintiff on his own accord and said "time to go Nicky" then walked away. Plaintiff has never seen or interacted with Defendant O'Hare before August 11, 2020.

34. Defendant O'Hare wanted Plaintiff to know she was being surveilled by the NYPD and intended to cause fear, intimidation and emotional distress to Plaintiff. Plaintiff did in fact suffer fear, intimidation and emotional threat as a result of Defendant O'Hare's actions.

**5. September 27, 2020**

35. On September 27, 2020, Plaintiff was peacefully protesting in front of Governor Cuomo's Manhattan office located at 633 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10017, when an officer asked the protestors to clear the area around 11:00 p.m.

36. Plaintiff prepared herself to leave and before she could, an officer put Plaintiff in a headlock with his baton and dragged her down to the ground. As the officer was choking Plaintiff, approximately four (4) other officers jumped on Plaintiff, threw her to the ground and laid on top of her for several minutes.
37. Plaintiff screamed many times that she could not breathe and was in pain. One officer put his knee in Plaintiff's back and rested his entire weight on Plaintiff. Another officer rested his weight and his knee and on Plaintiff's leg. After keeping Plaintiff in a compromising and painful position for several minutes, she was lifted off of the ground and carried into a police van.
38. Plaintiff was arrested and held for over 23 hours and arraigned on assault charges. All charges pertaining to this arrest were resolved in Plaintiff's favor and were dismissed.

**6. October 5, 2020**

39. On October 5th, 2020 Plaintiff was attending a March for Jonathan Price, a Black man who was shot 4 times in the stomach by Texas police and died. As the protestors departed the Seaport, Defendant Lieutenant Maria Hernandez approached Plaintiff and asked, "Hi Nicolle, having a good night?"
40. Plaintiff asked Defendant Hernandez how she knew her name and if she was trying to intimidate Plaintiff. Defendant Hernandez replied, "Everyone knows your fucking name." Defendant Hernandez intended to cause fear, intimidation and emotional distress to Plaintiff. Plaintiff did in fact suffer fear, intimidation and emotional threat as a result of Defendant Hernandez' actions



41. During the same protest and while Plaintiff was standing on the sidewalk filming an arrest, Defendant Hernandez ripped Plaintiff off the sidewalk by her hair, dragged Plaintiff into the street then arrested Plaintiff. Plaintiff was held for several hours and was issued criminal summonses. All charges pertaining to this arrest were resolved in Plaintiff's favor and were dismissed.

**7. October 18, 2020**

42. On October 18, 2020 Plaintiff attended a march for Breonna Taylor that met with the Trans March. An unmarked car with an officer inside tried to run through the crowd of approximately 75-100 protestors.

43. Defendant Captain Julio Delgado of the Strategic Response Group showed up smoking a cigar. Plaintiff pointed out that the cigar was not compliant with code and asked him why he was smoking a cigar. Defendant Delgado pointed to another officer and told him to arrest Plaintiff in retaliation, despite the fact that she was lawfully present at the location.

44. Defendant Delgado continued to harass and threaten Plaintiff and directed other officers to harass and threaten Plaintiff, until she was forced to leave the protest. Plaintiff did in fact leave the protest in fear of being assaulted and falsely arrested.

**8. October 26, 2020**

45. Plaintiff was peacefully protesting in Times Square when 3-4 police officers came towards Plaintiff, pulled her off of the sidewalk and down to her knees. Defendant Police Officer Yu Jian and another officer dragged Plaintiff while she was on her knees, forced Plaintiff on her stomach and arrested her.

46. Plaintiff was taken to a precinct for processing and when she entered, officers at the precinct desk said “welcome, Nicky”, letting her know they all knew who she was although she had never seen them prior to October 26, 2020. Said officers intended to cause fear, intimidation and emotional distress to Plaintiff. Plaintiff did in fact suffer fear, intimidation and emotional threat as a result of their actions.

47. While Plaintiff was being transported to the precinct for arrest processing, the transporting officer said: “We all loved your video of Delgado smoking the cigar,” Thereby informing Plaintiff that she was in fact being surveilled, targeted and harassed by NYPD officers. Said officer intended to cause fear, intimidation and emotional distress to Plaintiff and did in fact cause said injuries to Plaintiff.

**9. November 17, 2020**

48. While Plaintiff was attending a protest in Brooklyn Borough Hall, Police Officer Edward Casaceli made it a point to approach Plaintiff and call her by her name. Plaintiff asked how he knew her name and what she looked like to which he responded “every officer knows your fucking name; your picture is on all of our desks”.

**10. December 11, 2020**

49. Plaintiff was lawfully attending a protest near the United Nation Building, on or around 39<sup>th</sup> Street and Second Avenue, in support of abolishing Immigration and Customs Enforcement (“ICE”).

50. During the protest, a woman drove her car through the protestors injuring several people, one of whom was an acquaintance of Plaintiff. While Plaintiff was resting an ice pack on the acquaintance’s leg, without basis or cause, two police officers ran up to Plaintiff from behind

and tackled her to the ground. The officers then arrested Plaintiff by placing her hands in zip ties, dragged her for approximately one block and placed her in a van.

51. Police Officers ridiculed, taunted and mocked Plaintiff while waiting in the van with her. One officer stated, “if you don’t want to get run over then don’t go out protesting.” Plaintiff was crying and the officers mocked how she was crying.

52. Plaintiff was held for several hours and charged with Obstructing Governmental Administration.

53. Defendants have made it clear that they are purposefully surveilling, targeting, harassing, assaulting and falsely arresting Plaintiff because she exercises her first amendment right to protest, particularly protested against police brutality.

54. Defendants’ willful disregard for Plaintiff’s rights is a result of a policies, practice, customs, and procedures that enable excessive force, intimidation, false arrests and are aimed at inhibiting lawful protests.

55. Defendants’ conduct had the desired effect of chilling and inhibiting Plaintiff from exercising her right to protest.

56. Defendants’ intentionally targeted Plaintiff to cause her emotional distress by approaching her in public while she was not participating in protests and making their presence and knowledge of her known to her.

57. Defendants’ intentionally targeted Plaintiff to cause her emotional distress by singling her out at protest and harassing, intimidating, and unlawfully arresting her.

58. On several occasions, Plaintiff tried to comply with a dispersal order and tried to leave, but was unable to because Defendant Officers kettled her with other protestors.

59. On several occasions mentioned above, Plaintiff was tackled to the ground by Defendant-Officers, causing her to hit her head and bruises/cuts to her elbows, knees and shins.
60. On several occasions mentioned above, Plaintiff was arrested with flex-cuff zip-ties that were overly tightened to the point where Plaintiff lost mobility in her hands and had continued numbness.
61. Each time Plaintiff was arrested, she complained to the arresting officers and other NYPD officers, including those transporting her, about the tightness of the cuffs and her inability to social distance from other arrestees, only for said officers to completely disregard her complaints, and/or laugh at her.
62. Plaintiff is terrified of police and is scared to protest and exercise her rights to protest, free speech and to assemble.
63. Plaintiff lives in fear, anxiety and distress because she is targeted and surveilled by the NYPD.
64. Plaintiff suffered fear and apprehension as a result of the Defendants' actions and said conduct caused her great alarm and fear for her personal safety, fear of injury and death.
65. Plaintiff's injuries include severe permanent emotional, physical and psychological trauma and injury.
66. As a result of the foregoing, Plaintiff Nicolle Besuden sustained, *inter alia*, physical and mental injuries, emotional distress, embarrassment, deprivation of property, humiliation, and deprivation of her constitutional rights.

**NYPD'S Response to Policing Protest in 2020**

67. On March 13, 2020, Louisville police entered the home of Breonna Taylor, a Black woman and her boyfriend. The Louisville police shot Breonna at least eight times and killed her. They also shot her boyfriend then attempted to criminally charge him for the entire encounter.
68. A few months later, on May 25, 2020, multiple civilians recorded Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin and three other officers kill George Floyd, a Black male accused of tendering a \$20 counterfeit bill. Chauvin rested his knee, and his entire weight on George Floyd's neck for 9 minutes and 29 seconds until Chauvin choked Mr. Floyd to death.
69. The death of Breonna Taylor set off nationwide protest against police brutality and in support of police accountability in pursuit of racial justice. As tensions were high and daily protests continued, George Floyd was murdered. These murders set off powerful waves of protest across the world demanding police be held accountable and that the police killings of Black people stop.
70. Immediately after the murder of George Floyd, multiple protests were announced and advertised throughout New York City for months and New York residents participated in the said Protests, some of which, were held under the Black Lives Matter movement, which condemns systemic racism, anti-Black police violence, and use of excessive force against unarmed Black people.
71. In response to these racial justice and police accountability protest, the NYPD was permitted, encouraged and authorized to use violent, unconstitutional and unlawful measures to interfere, stop and prevent protest regarding police accountability.

72. Defendants knowingly and purposefully used types and levels of force that were excessive and unnecessary against Plaintiff and other peaceful protestors, despite such levels of force being in contravention of, or inconsistent with, NYPD policies and/or training.
73. Upon information and belief, the NYPD does not have training or policies regarding policing protests and First Amendment activity. Instead, the NYPD relied upon the Disorder Control Guidelines (“DCG”), which is a policy governing civil unrest, riots and disorder control.
74. The DCG relies upon militaristic tactics designed to demoralize, disperse and deter groups.
75. The NYPD uses excessive and unlawful force against protestors, including Plaintiff as a result of a policy, custom and practice aimed at inhibiting lawful protests and encouraging the use of excessive force, particularly protest in against police misconduct.
76. New York State Attorney General Letitia James held a 2-day hearing about the New York City Police Department’s Response to Demonstrations wherein she found police officers “using excessive force against protesters, including use of batons and indiscriminate use of pepper, brandishing firearms at protesters, and pushing vehicles or bikes into protesters.”<sup>1</sup>
77. The Department of Investigation (“DOI”) also conducted its own investigation and issued a report in response to the NYPD’s response to the racial justice protest.<sup>2</sup>
78. DOI’s review of NYPD policies revealed that the NYPD did not have a policy specific to policing protests or First Amendment-protected expression. Rather, the NYPD Patrol Guide

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<sup>1</sup> <https://ag.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2020-nypd-report.pdf>

<sup>2</sup>

<https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doi/reports/pdf/2020/DOIRpt.NYPD%20Reponse.%20GeorgeFloyd%20Protests.12.18.2020.pdf>

covers demonstrations in policies related to policing of “special events,” such as parades; “emergency incidents,” such as civil disorder; or “unusual disorder,” such as riots.<sup>3</sup>

79. The DOI also found that “the force required to carry out a mass arrest was disproportionate to the identified threat,” and “placed the burden of potential crime on a wide swath of people who had no apparent connection to that potential criminal activity.”<sup>4</sup>

80. Indeed, the NYPD has responded to protests by using unlawful force and false arrests as a matter of policy and practice and has done so on many occasions throughout the years as issues of police brutality rose to unconscionable levels.

81. Defendants knew that NYPD Officers would encounter protests against police brutality and in support of racial justice as multiple protests were announced and advertised throughout New York City for months.

82. Defendants knew that NYPD Officers would encounter protests in response to Police killings of unarmed Black people because they have encountered protest in the past including:

1. In 2014, in response to the killing of Michael Brown, an unarmed 18-year-old Black man who was shot by a Police Officer in Ferguson, Missouri<sup>5</sup>;
2. In 2014, Eric Garner was choked to death by an NYPD officer<sup>6</sup>;
3. In 2014, Akai Gurley was shot to death by an NYPD officer<sup>7</sup>:

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<sup>3</sup> Id at 35.

<sup>4</sup> Id at 56.

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.theatlantic.com/national/archive/2014/08/michael-brown-protests-spread-to-times-square/376125/>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2014/dec/05/eric-garner-case-new-york-protests-continue-through-second-night>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.nydailynews.com/new-york/brooklyn/hundreds-march-brooklyn-demanding-justice-akai-gurley-article-1.2058434>

4. 2015 in response to the killing of Freddie Gray an unarmed 25-year-old Black man who died after being injured while in custody of Baltimore Police<sup>8</sup>;
  5. 2016, Alton Sterling a 37-year-old Black man, was shot dead at close range by two Baton Rouge Police Department officers<sup>9</sup>;
  6. 2016, Philando Castille was shot to death by Minneapolis Police, while in the passenger seat of his car while his fiancé was in the driver's seat and his 4-year-old daughter was in the back seat<sup>10</sup>.
83. Defendants had notice, by way of media, social media, reports by the Civilian Complaint Review Board, Department of Investigation and others, that NYPD Officers engaged in unlawful behavior against protestors and protests in the past using excessive force, crowd disruption tactics and arrests lacking probable cause.
84. Defendants knew that without intervention or sufficient training, NYPD Officers would again continue to use the same tactics. Nevertheless, Defendants knowingly deployed thousands of insufficiently trained NYPD Officers to police the Protests.
85. There have been numerous documented incidents in the last several months where, as here, the NYPD responded to peaceful protests by using excessive/unlawful force and arresting peaceful protesters.<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> <https://www.nytimes.com/2015/04/30/nyregion/hundreds-march-in-manhattan-to-protest-the-death-of-freddie-gray.html>

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/local/new-york-city-new-jersey-protests-deadly-police-shootings-philando-castile-alton-sterling/697693/>

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.theatlantic.com/photo/2016/07/A-Week-of-bloodshed-in-America/490517/>

<sup>11</sup> See <https://legalaidnyc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/ECF-1-Complaint-against-the-City-of-New-York-2020-10-26.pdf> and <https://www.hrw.org/news/2020/09/30/us-new-york-police-planned-assault-bronx-protesters>



86. Defendants City and NYPD have been the subject of hundreds of federal and state lawsuits and complaints alleging violations of individuals constitutional rights as a result of and failure to train and the policy and/or practice of condoning violations of constitutional rights, including that of Plaintiff's, by its police officers against protestors including: (1) failure to ensure the need for individualized probable cause for each arrest; (2) failure to provide training regarding policing protests and First Amendment activities; (3) failure to provide meaningful dispersal orders and opportunities to disperse; and (4) failure to hold officers accountable for misconduct.
87. Plaintiff incorporates by reference the factual allegations in the following federal civil rights complaints in cases pending in the United States District Court for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York pertaining to Defendants' responses to protest held throughout 2020:
- a. Payne et al v. DeBlasio et al., 20-cv-8924 (CM)(GWG);
  - b. Wood v. DeBlasio et al., 20-cv-10291 (CM)(GWG);
  - c. Sow et al v. City of New York et al., 20-cv-00533 (CM)(GWG);
  - d. Beach v. City of New York et al., 21-cv-06737 (ALC);
  - e. Zayer v. City of New York et al., 20-cv-06070 (ARR)(PK);
  - f. Rolon v. City of New York et al., 21-cv-02548 (CM)(GWG); and
  - g. Fraser v. City of New York et al., 20-cv-05741 (NGG)(MMH)
88. Defendants subjected Plaintiff and other peaceful protestors to Defendants' Protest Arrest Processing Policies, whereby Plaintiff was crammed in NYPD vans with many other protestors and NYPD police officers and transported to a precinct or central booking.
89. Defendants did not have individualized probable cause for each arrest or a basis for issuing a summons to Plaintiff.

90. Plaintiff was rounded up indiscriminately with dozens of other protestors, subject to longer processing times in custody and exposed to dangerous and unsanitary conditions of confinement with no regard to the risk and threat of COVID-19.

91. Due to the sheer number of peaceful protestors that needed to be processed, Plaintiff and other arrestees were subjected to significantly longer processing time in custody, which also exposed them to inappropriate and hazardous conditions of confinement due to COVID-19.

### **NYPD's Passive Response to Pro-Police and Other Demonstrations**

92. On July 11, 2020 a "pro-NYPD rally in Dyker Heights devolved into physical attacks and racist, sexist language used against a group of counter-protesters."<sup>12</sup> Pro-Police protestors punched someone in the groin causing him to seek medical attention. Some pro-police marchers yelled that they hoped protestors would be raped, calling them a c\*\*\*, and made racist statements like saying Black lives were "garbage." A reporter was shoved by a blue lives matter protestor and her camera was destroyed and a police officer refused to take a police report. Blue Lives matter protestors threatened others with violence and physical assault. The NYPD made no arrests that day.<sup>13</sup>

93. On September 04, 2020, during a Black Lives Matter Protest in Times Square, pro-trump counter-protestors got into a vehicle and plowed through a crowd of Black Lives Matter marchers, hitting and injuring some of the marchers. The occupants of the vehicle were not arrested.<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>12</sup> <https://gothamist.com/news/police-rally-back-the-blue-brooklyn-dyker-heights>

<sup>13</sup> Id at ¶21.

<sup>14</sup> <https://gothamist.com/news/video-shows-driver-plowing-black-lives-matter-protesters-times-square>

94. On December 03, 2020, hundreds of people gathered in Staten Island in support of bar that was shut down because it refused to follow COVID-19 protocols. The Bar operated without a liquor license and served food and drinks in violations of the NYC's orders otherwise. The NYPD did not arrive to the protest in riot gear, did not kettle protestors and did not arrest or issue summonses to anyone during the protest.<sup>15</sup>

#### **NYPD'S Failure to Train Regarding Policing Protests**

95. Defendant City of New York has failed to train and has inadequately trained officers, including Defendant Officers on how to interact with protestors and police protests without engaging in constitutional violations.

96. According to the Department of Investigation ("DOI"), the NYPD does not have a policy specific to policing protests or First Amendment-protected expression.<sup>16</sup>

97. The NYPD relies on the Disorder Control Guidelines ("DCG"), which dictates protocol pertaining to large scale gatherings, civil unrest, disorder control and riots.

98. The DCG promotes military tactics designed to disperse, deter and demoralize large groups. Upon information and belief, the DCG contains no guidance regarding protest and First amendment activities.

99. The SRG are not trained to respond to peaceful protest or First Amendment activity nor is it their purpose. The deployment of SRG to protest and First Amendment activity resulted in the use of violent, aggressive, and excessive force which resulted in constitutional violations.

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<sup>15</sup> <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/hundreds-protest-closing-staten-island-bar-refused-covid-19-measures-n1249873>

<sup>16</sup> DOI at 35

100. The DOI also found that the NYPD offered no comprehensive in-service training across the Department that related to policing protests at all and the NYPD lacked standardized, agencywide, in-service training related to policing protests.”<sup>17</sup>
101. In addition to failing to train NYPD officers, the Defendant City deployed the Strategic Response Group (“SRG”), a heavily militarized, rapid-response unit of several hundred officers tasked with dealing with public disorder events and terrorist acts.
102. The DOI also found that “outside of SRG, the NYPD deployed officers who largely lacked any recent training related to protests and that the NYPD appeared to have deployed a large number of front-line supervisors and officers to police the Floyd protests without adequate training.”<sup>18</sup>
103. The DOI further concluded that the new training provided was deficient because “that scenario-based training appears focused solely or primarily on crowd control tactics and formations with no discernable reference to managing interactions, facilitating First Amendment rights, and minimizing the use of force.”<sup>19</sup>
104. Upon information and belief, the NYPD relied upon the DCG and SRG to respond with hostility to protestors as mentioned above and in the documents throughout the reports mentioned herein and cases cited in reference.
105. Defendants’ failure to train includes: (1) failure to ensure the need for individualized probable cause for each arrest; (2) failure to provide training regarding policing protests and

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<sup>17</sup>

<https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doi/reports/pdf/2020/DOIRpt.NYPD%20Reponse.%20GeorgeFloyd%20Protests.12.18.2020.pdf>

<sup>18</sup> DOI at 66

<sup>19</sup> Id.

First Amendment activities; (3) failure to provide meaningful dispersal orders and opportunities to disperse; and (4) failure to hold officers accountable for misconduct.

106. Defendant City's refusal to address the abuses of protestors by Police is the result of a policy, practice, custom, and procedure of the City that encouraged the use of excessive force, false arrest and imprisonment of protestors and to suppress First Amendment-protected activities by using these abusive, militaristic tactics, such as those used against Plaintiff.

107. The NYPD engaged in a pattern or practice whereby NYPD Officers kettled peaceful protesters, prevented them from leaving an area and stopped them from complying with dispersal orders. The practice involved the use of indiscriminate, excessive force; mass unlawful arrests of peaceful, non-resisting protesters; mass unlawful detention and arrests of protesters who were not given an opportunity to disperse from protest zones; and the overall quashing of peaceful protests.

108. Defendants, along with other policy-making officials, knew that the NYPD officers were woefully under-trained and were not ready to properly police the mass protests. Despite the foregoing, said Defendants and policy-making officials knowingly and purposefully deployed thousands of insufficiently trained officers to police the protests.

109. Defendants failed to discipline the vast majority of NYPD Officers who used excessive force against Plaintiff and other Protest attendees.

110. Out of thousands of complaints of excessive force and abuse of authority received by the CCRB, less than a third are fully investigated leaving the overwhelming majority of officers without accountability.<sup>20</sup>

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<sup>20</sup> [https://www1.nyc.gov/site/ccrb/policy/data-transparency-initiative-complaints.page#complaint\\_fado](https://www1.nyc.gov/site/ccrb/policy/data-transparency-initiative-complaints.page#complaint_fado)

111. Furthermore, the DOI report found that between May 28 and June 20, 2020, the CCRB had received 1,646 protest-related allegations related to 248 incidents.<sup>21</sup>
112. Upon information and belief, Mayor de Blasio and Commissioner Shea received regular reports from Chief Monahan and other NYPD officials regarding the manner in which the City responded to the mass protests and confirmed the same during press conferences held throughout the years 2020 and 2021.
113. Upon information and belief, Mayor de Blasio, Commissioner Shea, and Chief Monahan regularly reviewed reports documenting patterns of police misconduct, their use of excessive force, unlawful seizures, and other First-Amendment violations, including media coverage regarding the violent suppression of peaceful protestors.
114. Despite being aware of the unlawful practices of the NYPD in policing the protests, named Defendants Mayor, Commissioner Shea, Chief Monahan and the NYPD leadership deliberately failed to correct and/or prevent NYPD Officers from using the aforementioned tactics.

#### **NYPD’S Practice of Unlawful Arrest**

115. Defendants effectuated, condoned and enforced a pattern or practice whereby NYPD Officers surrounded peaceful protestors, blocked them from leaving, and prevented them from complying with dispersal orders through the use of indiscriminate excessive force.
116. Defendants effectuated, condoned and enforced a pattern or practice whereby NYPD Officers engaged in the unlawful mass arrests of peaceful protestors, and unlawful mass detentions and arrests of protestors who were not given an opportunity to disperse.

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<sup>21</sup> Id. at 26.

117. According to the DOI, NYPD's use of force on protesters—encirclement (commonly called “kettling”), mass arrests, baton and pepper spray use, and other tactics—reflected a failure to calibrate an appropriate balance between valid public safety or officer safety interests and the rights of protesters to assemble and express their views.<sup>22</sup>
118. The NYPD did not have adequate policy or failed to train its members on policing protest and instead relied upon Disorder Control Guideline. The Disorder Control relies on the use of mass arrests... and other tactics to enforce crowd control.<sup>23</sup>
119. The NYPD's use of mass arrest resulted in multiple arrest of protestors, including Plaintiff, without particularized and individualized probable cause pertaining to each arrest.
120. The NYPD purposefully and repeatedly used tactics, such as kettling, to effectuate the unlawful arrests, and intentionally created barriers and difficulties for the peaceful protestors that sought to comply with the NYPD's dispersal orders.
121. In numerous instances, all well documented by media, officers were seen flanking protestors, blocking their paths with bicycles, and vehicles, to prevent protestors from leaving.
122. In addition, there were many reports documented by media wherein an automated dispersal message was played moments before NYPD Officers began blocking off exits from protest locations in a purposeful attempt to trap the protestors with no meaningful opportunity for them to disperse.
123. In furtherance of the unlawful arrest of Plaintiff and other protestors, Defendant Police officers falsified criminal charges, summonses and arrest paperwork to justify the false arrests as the charges against Plaintiff were ultimately dismissed.

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<sup>22</sup> DOI at 3

<sup>23</sup> DOI at 35

**AS FOR THE FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**

**EXCESSIVE FORCE/UNLAWFUL USE OF FORCE  
UNDER 42 U.S.C. § 1983**

124. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and re-alleges each and every allegation contained in the above paragraphs with the same force and effect as if fully set forth herein.
125. All of the aforementioned acts of the Defendant CITY OF NEW YORK, and the individual Defendants and their agents, servants and employees, were carried out under the color of state law.
126. Upon information and belief, each Defendant, intentionally and/or recklessly used and attempted to use unreasonable, unlawful and/or excessive force on Plaintiff, including but not limited to, striking, beating, dragging, hitting, sitting on and pushing Plaintiff, thereby depriving Plaintiff of her right to be free from assault, battery, the use of unreasonable, unlawful, excessive, and improper force in violation of the Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments of the Constitution of the United States, 42 U.S.C. § 1983, NYS Constitution, New York State laws, and the common laws of New York.
127. The aforementioned individual Defendants in their official capacities as Police Officers carried out the acts complained of, with all of the actual and/or apparent authority attendant thereto.
128. Defendants' actions were without any legal justification, and the force used upon Plaintiff was excessive, unwarranted, inappropriate, reckless, negligent and wholly improper.
129. Defendants' use of force against Plaintiff was not justified as she posed no threat to the Defendants that required the use of force used against her and was lawfully present at all locations mentioned above.



130. Defendants' actions caused Plaintiff to fear for her life and safety, and at no point was any of the contact and attempted contact consensual or privileged.
131. As a direct and proximate result of the above constitutionally impermissible conduct, Plaintiff was subject to unlawful excessive force, assaulted, seized and was caused to suffer personal injuries, violation of her civil rights, emotional distress, anguish, anxiety, fear, humiliation, loss of freedom.
132. As a result of Defendants' impermissible conduct, Plaintiff demands judgment against Defendants in a sum of money to be determined at trial.

**AS A SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**

**FALSE ARREST, FALSE IMPRISONMENT, UNLAWFUL SEIZURE  
UNDER 42 U.S.C. § 1983 AND NYS LAW**

133. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and re-alleges each and every allegation contained in the above paragraphs with the same force and effect as if fully set forth herein.
134. That on the above-mentioned dates, the Defendants, and their agents, servants and/or employees intentionally handcuffed, arrested and imprisoned Plaintiff, without any just cause or individualized probable cause.
135. The Defendants, their agents, servants and/or employees, as set forth above, intended to seize, handcuffed and arrest Plaintiff against her will; Plaintiff was conscious of her arrests and confinements; did not consent to the arrests and confinements; and the arrests and confinements were not otherwise privileged.
136. As a direct and proximate result of the above constitutionally impermissible conduct, Plaintiff was caused to suffer personal injuries, violation of her civil rights, emotional distress, anguish, anxiety, fear, humiliation, loss of freedom.

137. As a result of Defendants' impermissible conduct, Plaintiff demands judgment against Defendants in a sum of money to be determined at trial.

**AS A THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION**

**FAILURE TO INTERVENE UNDER 42 U.S.C. §1983**

138. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and re-alleges each and every allegation contained in the above paragraphs with the same force and effect as if fully set forth herein.

139. The Defendants collectively had an affirmative duty to intervene on Plaintiff's behalf to prevent the violation of her constitutional rights. Each of the Defendant-Officers engaged in the use of excessive force and assault of the Plaintiff.

140. While each Defendant-Officer was engaged in the use of excessive force, surveillance, targeting, assault, harassment of Plaintiff in violation of her rights, those officers who were not engaged in said conduct against Plaintiff failed to intervene to prevent the use of excessive force in violation of Plaintiff's rights, despite an opportunity to do so.

141. The Defendant-Officers watched as Plaintiff was unlawfully subjected to excessive, unnecessary and unlawful force, and falsely arrested. Defendant Officers participated in the harassment, intimidation, targeting, assault, surveillance and false arrest of Plaintiff. Defendants mocked, laughed and were entertained by the humiliation and degradation of Plaintiff. Defendants also participation in the violation of Plaintiff's constitutional right to assemble and exercise free speech.

142. Each Defendant had an opportunity to intervene to stop the false arrest and stop the use of excessive, unnecessary and unlawful force deployed against Plaintiff in front of them and within their immediate area. Each Defendant failed to instruct other officers not to use force or physically restrain the officers from using force and not to engage in the false arrest of Plaintiff.

To the contrary, officers were encouraged to threaten, harass, intimidate, arrest, surveille Plaintiff and chill her speech.

143. The Defendants collectively failed to intervene on Plaintiff's behalf in order to prevent the violation of her constitutional rights despite having substantially contributed to the circumstances within which the Plaintiff's rights were violated by their affirmative conduct.

144. As a direct and proximate result of the above constitutionally impermissible conduct, Plaintiff was caused to suffer personal injuries, violation of her civil rights, emotional distress, anguish, anxiety, fear, humiliation, loss of freedom.

145. As a result of Defendants' impermissible conduct, Plaintiff demands judgment against Defendants in a sum of money to be determined at trial.

#### **AS A FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

##### **ASSAULT AND BATTERY UNDER NEW YORK STATE LAW**

146. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and re-alleges each and every allegation contained in the above paragraphs with the same force and effect as if fully set forth herein.

147. Among other things as described above, Defendants' search, seizure, and use of force against Plaintiff placed her in fear of imminent harmful and offensive physical contacts.

148. Defendants used unlawful force upon Plaintiff, including striking her with such force that in one instance she suffered a fractured arm.

149. Among other things as described above, Defendants' search, seizure, surveillance, harassment, targeting and use of force against Plaintiff were illegal physical contacts and served to intimidate, harass and prevent her from exercising her constitutional rights under the first amendment.

150. As a direct and proximate result of the above constitutionally impermissible conduct, Plaintiff was caused to suffer personal injuries, violation of her civil rights, emotional distress, anguish, anxiety, fear, humiliation, loss of freedom.

151. As a result of Defendants' impermissible conduct, Plaintiff demands judgment against Defendants in a sum of money to be determined at trial.

**AS A FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

**MUNICIPAL LIABILITY**

**Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 1983 and *Monell v. Department of Social Services*, 436 U.S. 658 (1978) for Defendants' Violations of Plaintiffs' Rights Under the First, Fourth, and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution and *respondeat superior* against Defendant City of New York, Defendant Bill de Blasio, Defendant Dermot Shea, and Defendant Terence Monahan**

152. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and re-alleges each and every allegation contained in the above paragraphs with the same force and effect as if fully set forth herein.

153. At all relevant times, the individual Defendant-Officers were acting as the agents, servants and employees of Defendant City.

154. At all relevant times, the Defendant City maintained the NYPD which acts under the direction and supervision of the aforementioned municipal corporation, City of New York.

155. Defendant City of New York, therefore, directly or indirectly, and under color of law, thereby approved or ratified the unlawful, malicious and wanton conduct of the individual Defendant police officers named herein.

156. The individual Defendants were acting within the scope of their employment as New York City Police Officers, and invoked state power and authority when committing the above-described acts against Plaintiff. As a result, the Defendant City is liable to Plaintiff pursuant to the state common law doctrine of *respondeat superior*.

157. Defendant City of New York failed to use reasonable care in the selection of its employees, against and/or servants, failed to properly train and/or supervise the individual Defendants, and failed to provide the appropriate safeguards to prevent the excessive force, assault, harassment, negligence, false arrest, intimidation, surveillance and collective violation of the Plaintiff's rights.
158. Defendants failed to adequately train and supervise the NYPD Officers who assaulted, battered, falsely arrested, intimidated, surveilled, falsely imprisoned, and/or negligently injured Plaintiff.
159. Defendant City of New York and NYPD acted under color of law pursuant to an official policy, practiced or custom and practice of the Defendant City of New York and NYPD and intentionally, knowingly, recklessly or with deliberate indifference failed to properly and adequately control and discipline on a continuing basis its employees, agents and/or servants and/or otherwise failed to prevent the individual defendants from unlawfully and maliciously conducting, permitting or allowing the Constitutional violations alleged above in violation of the rights, privileges and immunities guaranteed to Plaintiff by the Constitution and laws of the United States and/or New York.
160. Defendant City of New York and NYPD had knowledge of, or had they diligently and reasonably exercised their duties to instruct, supervise, control, monitor and discipline its employees, agents and/or servants, would have had knowledge of the wrongful acts and/or omissions identified above and intentionally, knowingly or with deliberate indifference to Plaintiff's rights, failed or refused to prevent their commission and/or omission.

161. The City failed to train its officers on how to facilitate protesters exercising their constitutional rights, particularly as it relates to policing protests, and to not use force upon them or unlawfully discourage same.
162. The City of New York also failed to train its officers that if they see other officers engaged in misconduct/unlawful activity, such as the unlawful use of force and inhibiting the exercise of free speech, protest, and assembly in this matter, they must intervene to prevent it.
163. As a direct and proximate result of the above constitutionally impermissible conduct, Plaintiff was caused to suffer personal injuries, violation of her civil rights, emotional distress, anguish, anxiety, fear, humiliation, loss of freedom.
164. The practice involved the use of indiscriminate, excessive force; mass unlawful arrests of peaceful, non-resisting protesters; mass unlawful detention and arrests of protesters who were not given an opportunity to disperse from protest zones; and the overall quashing of peaceful protests. The City was on notice that its officers have continually violated the rights of protesters, yet has done nothing to hold any officer accountable, impose any training, and instead encouraged officers to continue to use unlawful tactics such as the ones described herein, with the explicit goal of violating Plaintiff's rights and the exercise of same.
165. Defendants were acting within the scope of their employment as officers on duty and in uniform, for the City of New York when they committed the above actions.
166. The Defendants were acting pursuant to the City's mandates and for its benefit when they committed the above actions. Defendant City of New York, as the employer of NYPD Officers, is responsible for the wrongdoing of NYPD Officers under the doctrine of respondeat superior.
167. As a result of Defendants' impermissible conduct, Plaintiff demands judgment against Defendants in a sum of money to be determined at trial.

**AS A SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

**INTENTIONAL INFLICTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS**

168. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and re-alleges each and every allegation contained in the above paragraphs with the same force and effect as if fully set forth herein.
169. The actions of the collective Defendants heretofore described, constituted unlawful detention, imprisonment, assault and battery and were designed to and did cause bodily harm, pain and suffering both in violation of Plaintiff's Constitutional rights as guaranteed under 42 U.S.C. §1983 and the United States Constitution, Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments and the Constitution of the State of New York.
170. Collective Defendants' actions were undertaken under color of law and would not have existed but for Defendants using their official power.
171. Defendants' conduct was extreme and outrageous in that Defendants intentionally followed, surveilled, targeted, intimidated, harassed and singled out Plaintiff. Defendants made an effort to inform Plaintiff they were watching her in some manner, every officer knew who she was, had her picture, watched her social media activity, knew what protests she would be at.
172. Defendants' conduct was extreme and outrageous in that Plaintiff was consistently singled out in protests, assaulted, falsely arrested and falsely charged with crimes that were dismissed.
173. Defendants acted with intent to cause, or disregard of a substantial probability of causing, severe emotional distress to Plaintiff.
174. As a direct and proximate result of the above constitutionally impermissible conduct, Plaintiff was caused to suffer personal injuries, violation of her civil rights, emotional distress, anguish, anxiety, fear, humiliation, loss of freedom.

175. As a result of Defendants' unlawful conduct, Plaintiff demands judgment against Defendants in a sum of money to be determined at trial.

**AS AN SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

**MALICIOUS PROSECUTION UNDER 42 U.S. C. § 1983  
AND NEW YORK STATE LAW**

176. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and re-alleges each and every allegation contained in the above paragraphs with the same force and effect as if fully set forth herein.

177. Upon information and belief, Defendants falsified police reports, arrest paperwork, sworn statements, criminal summonses and submissions to the District Attorney's office in support of the malicious prosecution of Plaintiff.

178. Defendants lacked probable cause to initiate and continue criminal proceedings against Plaintiff and Defendants acted with malice in initiating criminal proceedings against Plaintiff.

179. The unlawful conduct of the Defendants was willful, malicious, oppressive, and/or reckless, and was of such a nature that punitive damages should be imposed against them.

180. The criminal proceedings initiated against Plaintiff were resolved in her favor in that they were dismissed.

181. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants acts and omissions, Plaintiff was caused to suffer personal injuries, violation of her civil rights, emotional distress, anguish, anxiety, fear, humiliation, caused to expend costs and expenses and suffered loss of freedom.

182. As a result of Defendants' impermissible conduct, Plaintiff demands judgment against Defendants in a sum of money to be determined at trial.

**AS AN EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

**VIOLATION OF FREE SPEECH, FREEDOM OF ASSEMBLY, AND RETALIATION  
Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 under the first and Fourteenth Amendments of the U.S.  
Constitution and NYS Constitution**



183. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates, and re-alleges each and every allegation contained in the above paragraphs with the same force and effect as if fully set forth herein.
184. Defendant NYPD Officers violated the constitutionally-protected activities of speech, assembly and expressive conduct and retaliated against Plaintiff having engaged in said activities by assaulting, battering, detaining and falsely charging her.
185. Defendants engaged in the acts and omissions complained of herein in retaliation for Plaintiff's protected speech and/or conduct.
186. Defendants engaged in the acts and omissions complained of herein in order to prevent Plaintiffs from continuing to engage in such protected speech and/or conduct.
187. The NYPD's unconstitutional abuses and violations were, and are, directly and proximately caused by policies, practices and/or customs devised, implemented, enforced, encouraged and sanctioned by Defendant City, Shea and/or Monahan.
188. Defendants sanctioned, encouraged and implemented policies and practices, practices, and/or customs of punishing conduct of protest attendees protected by the First Amendment in retaliation for, and in order to prevent Plaintiff from further, exercising those rights, as detailed above.
189. Defendants have repeatedly had notice that NYPD Officers' training and supervision were inadequate and likely to result in constitutional violations based on complaints of First Amendment violations at large-scale protests within the last two decades, as documented in reports, lawsuits, and CCRB complaints.
190. Defendants have acted with deliberate indifference to the First Amendment rights of New York Residents, particularly Plaintiff. Defendants' acts and omissions have directly and proximately chilled and thus violated the First Amendment Rights of Plaintiff. By acting under

the color of state law to deprive Plaintiff of her rights under the First Amendment, Defendants violated 42 U.S.C. § 1983, which prohibits the deprivation under color of state law of those rights secured by the United States Constitution.

191. Upon information and belief, Defendants did not subject other protesters expressing “pro police views or other, messages who were similarly situated to Plaintiff in terms of their conduct and/or its potential public ramifications to the conduct, policies, practices, and/or customs complained of herein.

192. Additionally, the offenses charged against Plaintiffs were all offenses that Defendants typically exercise their discretion not to enforce, or not to make arrests in connection with.

193. Furthermore, Defendants targeted, surveilled and intimidated Plaintiff when she was not participating in protests and Plaintiff suffered adverse effects on her protected speech.

194. Defendant NYPD Officers were acting within the scope of their employment, were acting as the agents, servants and employees of Defendant City of New York, as the employer of the NYPD officers and therefore Defendant City of New York, as the employer of NYPD Officers, is responsible for the wrongdoing of NYPD Officers under the doctrine of respondeat superior.

### **JURY DEMAND**

Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 38 Plaintiff demands a trial by jury in this action for all issues triable by a jury.

### **RELIEF REQUESTED**

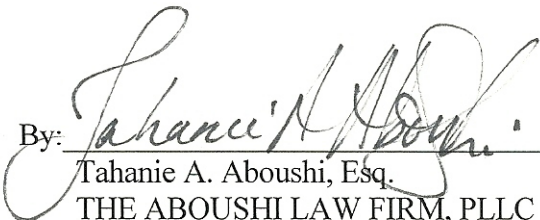
**WHEREFORE**, Plaintiff demands that judgment be entered against the Defendants, jointly and severally, for:

(a) any and all damages sustained by the Plaintiff arising from the foregoing wrongful and unlawful acts of the Defendants;

- (b) punitive damages against the individual Defendant-Officers where permissible by law;
- (c) interest, both pre-judgment and post-judgment;
- (d) a declaration that Defendant's violated the rights of Plaintiff;
- (e) an Injunction/Order prohibiting the Defendants from violating the rights of protesters, and amending their policies to inhibit the violation of rights as alleged herein;
- (f) attorney's fees and costs; and
- (g) all other such relief as this Court may deem appropriate, equitable, and just

Dated: October 13, 2021  
New York, New York

Respectfully Submitted,

By:   
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